


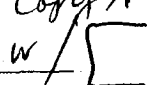


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
PP STAFF COORDINATION

PROJECT: **OBTUSE**

	AMENDMENT NO.	DIVISION	SE
X	RENEWAL (FY 1959)	BRANCH	Yugoslav-Albanian
	TERMINATION	DESK	Albanian

STAFF CONCURRENCE				MEMORANDUM ATTACHED		
ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENT	SIGNATURE	COPY NO.	DATE	YES	NO	DATE
SSA-DD/S	<i>/S/</i> 	2	9/26/58			
PP/PRD/RB	  <i>u</i>	1 & 3	4 Oct 58			
PP/PYD	<i>Copy N23 coordd.</i> <i>w/</i> 		3 Oct. 58			
PP/PRD		1				

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

<i>for</i> CPP	SIGNATURE 	DATE 15 Oct. 1958
A/DD/P/P	SIGNATURE	DATE

(This space reserved for comments of SSA-DD/S; CPP; A/DD/P/P.)

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODSEXEMPTION 3B2E
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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REQUEST FOR PP PROJECT RENEWAL
DIVISION PROJECT CLEARANCE SHEET

1. ACTION: Request for Renewal, FY 1959

a. Project Cryptonym

OBTUSE

b. Division

SE

c. Branch

YA

d. Desk

SE/YA/PP

e. Case Officer's Name and Telephone
Extension

5

3530

2. DIVISION CONCURRENCES.

SE/YA

23 Aug 1958

Date

25 Aug 1958

Date

28 Aug 1958

Date

29 August 1958

Date

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S-E-C-R-E-T

CI/OA PROJECT REVIEW FORM

Cryptonym. ORTUSE Division. SE Station. Hdqs.
Type of Project. A PP operation designed to keep alive the spirit of passive
resistance in Albania and to create disaffection amongst the leaders of the Albanian
Communist Party.
Case Officer. [] Room. Ext. 8530
New Project.; Renewal ~~xxx~~ xxx ... year-old project.;
Amendment.; Extension for. months; termination.
Project approval period from. 1 July 1958 ~~to~~ through 30 June 1959....

Recommendations:

CI/OA recommends renewal.

Date of Evaluation. 10 September 1958

Distribution:

[]
[]
Chief, CI/OA

S-E-C-R-E-T

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1. TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED (U. S. Dollars) \$2,500
2. AMOUNT IN WHICH PROJECT WAS INCLUDED IN THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAM 2,500
3. SUMMARY OF FUNDS APPROVED AND OBLIGATED BY FISCAL YEAR SINCE PROJECT WAS INITIATED

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Obligated</u>
1955	\$ []	\$ []
1956	[]	[]
1957	[]	[]
1958	[]	[]

4. a. There have been no policy changes arising during the previous fiscal year which have a direct bearing on the project. There has, however, been a renewed emphasis given to the policy of "freedom through gradual evolution rather than revolution" and the promotion of revisionism within the Albanian Communist Party. The ban on leaflet raids is still in effect and there is little possibility that this ban will be lifted.

b. The objectives of the project have changed to the extent that the emphasis is no longer primarily "to keep alive the feelings of passive resistance", but rather to persuade members of the Albanian Communist Party that certain policy changes are necessary if the Albanian people are to improve their economic status and survive as a nation.

c. The project is now being run primarily from Headquarters rather than from [] At present our principal agent, [] is an American citizen residing in the U. S. whereas previously we used indigenous agents residing in Greece. Wind-drift leaflet raids are no longer being considered and the total effort will go into a mail campaign to Albanian Communist Party members throughout the world and key non-Communist Albanians.

d. During FY 1957 a total of about one-thousand newspapers, four different editions, were mailed to pro-Communist Albanians and Albanian Communist Party members throughout the world and key non-Communist Albanians.

e. In an attempt to learn if our newspaper was getting into Albania and being read we inserted an item in a recent issue to the effect that we had a small fund available for medicines for persons in Albania in dire need. Recently we received a letter from an American citizen whose relative in Albania had written him that she had read our offer in the newspaper and was enclosing a doctor's medical report testifying that she needed streptomycin. We verified authenticity of the letter and the report and feel this is some indication that the newspaper is reaching the target.

f. Nevertheless, there is no incontrovertible evidence that Project OBTUSE has produced any significant operational results and target reactions during the past fiscal year. The fact remains that the Tirane regime's propaganda against revisionists and critics of the Albanian regime has

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steadily mounted in intensity, and there is little doubt that the regime is extremely sensitive to criticisms from outside Albania. On at least two occasions within the past six months the regime press and radio have lashed out against those "Albanian emigres" who have tried to promote "revisionism" in Albania. OBTUSE is the only attempt being made to get written "revisionist" as well as anti-Communist propaganda into Albania.

g. No FI production was obtained through this operation, but it is hoped that the program will be instrumental in causing defections within the Albanian Communist Party and thus contribute toward the FI production.

h. Cover - Principle^{al} agent is a Boston Albanian-American businessman who is president of an Albanian-American literary-political organization and editor of their newspaper. As such, he has access to Albanian-Americans, including returning legal travelers to the U. S., and printing facilities for his newspaper.

Control - Agent is a loyal and well motivated U. S. citizen.

Security - The Albanian-American Literary Society was set up by Anti-Communist Albanian Americans of their own volition rather than at CIA's initiative. The P/A has a free hand in publishing the paper, consequently, there is little risk of tapping in CIA to the mailing operations. The P/A is at present spending one-half of his time on legal traveler activity and the other half producing, addressing, and mailing propaganda newspapers and pamphlets to Albanian countries. His entire salary, \$75 per month, is to be paid by project OBTUSE.

i. The P/A meets about once every two months with a case officer. He maintains regular correspondence (about three letters per month) with the case officer through a Post Office Box. P/A has had no training in PP work nor is he a journalist by profession, but he is well motivated and cooperative.

j. The project occupies no more than two hours per week of the staff officer's time. Only one contract officer at a very nominal stipend is required. The aid of the ☐ and their Albanian PP personnel is required once or twice per year.

k. and l. not applicable

m. Plans for the ensuing year. The level of activity will depend largely on the evaluative intelligence we receive from our legal traveler sources. At present we plan to send a letter, newspaper, or pamphlet to an average of 150 Albanian Communists or Pro-Communists every two months. Most of the material will be anti-Communist with the "reasoned refutation" approach and avoidance of any inflammatory verbiage. At the same time, we will attempt to produce and mail several hundred "black propaganda" letters purportedly from a revisionist Albanian Communist group outside Albania.

n. Salary, <input type="checkbox"/> (P/A)	\$ 800
Cost of printing, mailing, etc.	1,500
Travel expenses	<u>200</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,500

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(When Filled In)

PROJECT FINANCIAL DATA		PROJECT CRYPTONYM			
		OBTUSE			
		FISCAL PERIOD COVERED			
*MAY NOT EXCEED SECRET CLASSIFICATION		1 July 1958 THRU 30 JUNE 1959			
RESPONSIBLE STAFF OR DIVISION SE/YA		CASE OFFICER [] []			
A. PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS					
Indicate number and type of personnel required and estimated total compensation for salary, allowances, travel and related employee benefits. Include everyone paid from project.					
TYPE	NUMBER		ESTIMATED COMPENSATION		
	U. S. PERSONNEL	FOREIGN NATIONAL	BASE SALARY	ALL OTHER	TOTAL
STAFF EMPLOYEES					
STAFF AGENTS					
CAREER AGENTS					
CONTRACT AGENTS	1		800	200	1000.00
CONTRACT CONSULTANTS					
DETAILED PERSONNEL					
FIELD AGENTS					
MILITARY					
ALL OTHER					
TOTAL A.					
B. SUPPLIES, MATERIEL AND EQUIPMENT					
Indicate amount required in applicable spaces. Attach complete supporting list for each.					
COMMO	CHEMICAL	QUARTERMASTER SUPPLIES		OTHER SUPPLIES	
\$	\$	\$		\$	
MEDICAL	ORDNANCE	SPECIAL DEVICES		OTHER EQUIPMENT	
\$	\$	\$		\$	
TOTAL B.					
C. OTHER OPERATIONAL EXPENSES					
Indicate volume and nature of expenses such as (1) maintenance of two operational houses abroad (2) spot purchase of information, etc.					
Cost of printing newspapers, pamphlets, letters, & mailing expenses - \$1,500.00					
TOTAL C. \$1,500.00					
D. SUBSIDY OR PROPRIETARY PAYMENTS					
If funds are to be turned over to individuals or groups in large lump sums to be expended by the individuals or groups at their discretion to accomplish an agreed-upon objective, explain the type of financial accounts, factual verification or statements, if any, other than a receipt for the lump sum, which will be obtained.					
TOTAL D.					
TOTAL FUND REQUIREMENTS (A + B + C + D) \$2,500.00					

SECRET

(When Filled In)

E. FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

APPROXIMATE DATES AND AMOUNTS OF MONEY REQUIRED

FORM REQUIRED



U. S. DOLLARS



FOREIGN (SPECIFY)



NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS (SPECIFY)

SPECIAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS OR METHODS OF TRANSMISSION

F. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

(Within security limitations, list any other facts or circumstances which will enable Special Support Staff to lend adequate logistical support to this project. Indicate specificationally the "RUSH" or "TIME" factors involved.)

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